



5-Year Plan (2005 to 2010) Clallam Conservation District Resource Inventory

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General Information

Clallam County consists of 1,739 square miles (1,112,960 acres) along the northern half of the Olympic Peninsula. According to the 2000 census, the population of Clallam County was 64,525, with 60% of the population living in unincorporated areas. The County's population is growing slightly faster than the rest of the state, at an annual rate of 4.2 %. There has been a 14.1% increase from the 1990 census population. 32.9 square miles, or 1.9% of the County have been identified as Urban Growth Areas.

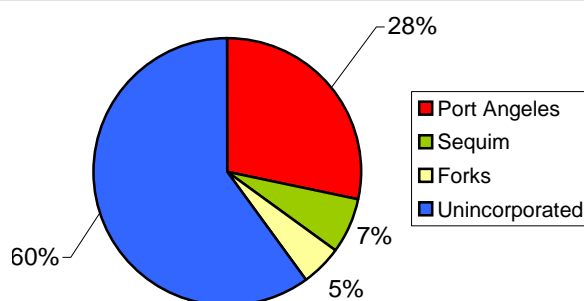


Urban Land Areas in Clallam County

Unit	Square Miles
Total County	1,739 (1,112,960 ac)
Port Angeles	10.1 (6,464 ac)
Sequim	5.3 (3,392 ac)
Forks	3.4 (2,176 ac)
UGAs	32.9 (21,056 ac)
Unincorporated	1,720 (1,100,800 ac)

Population Distribution of Clallam County

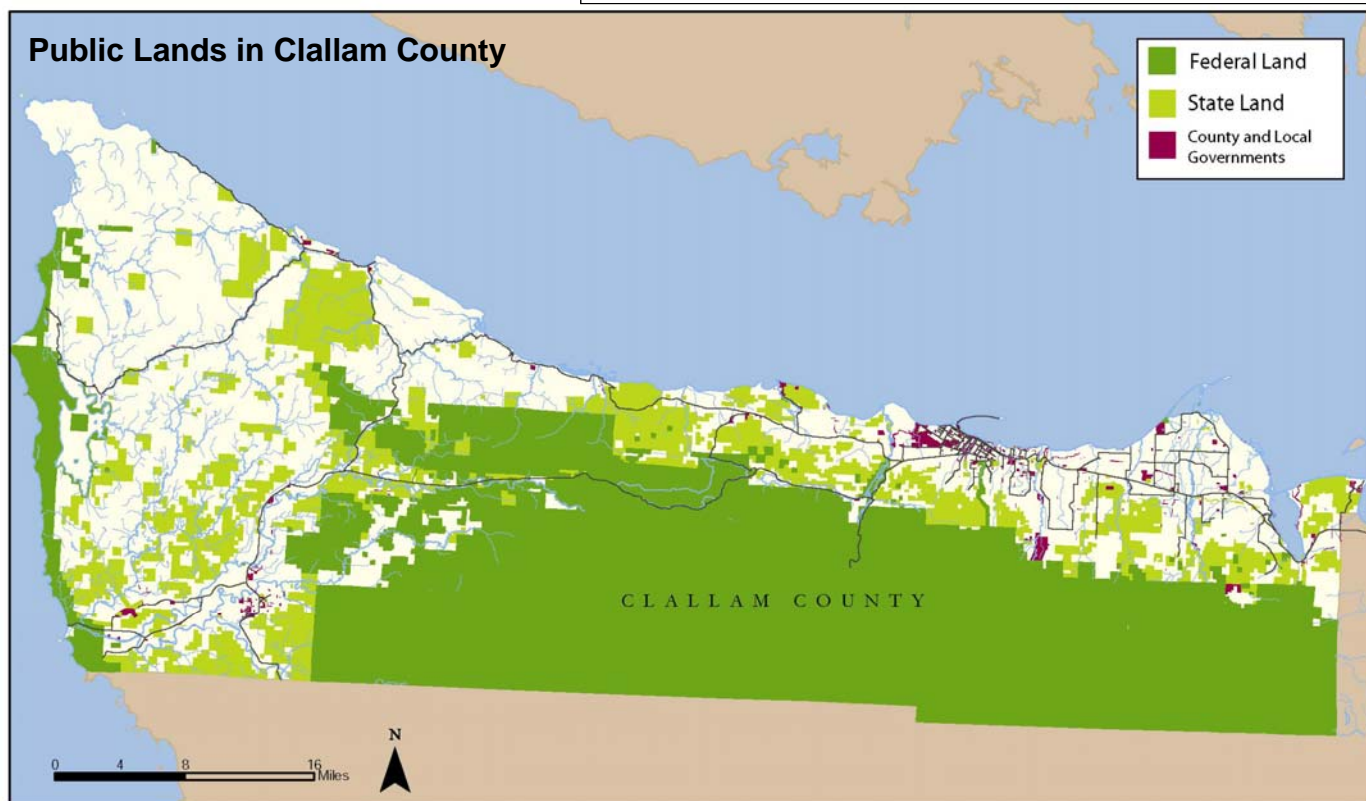
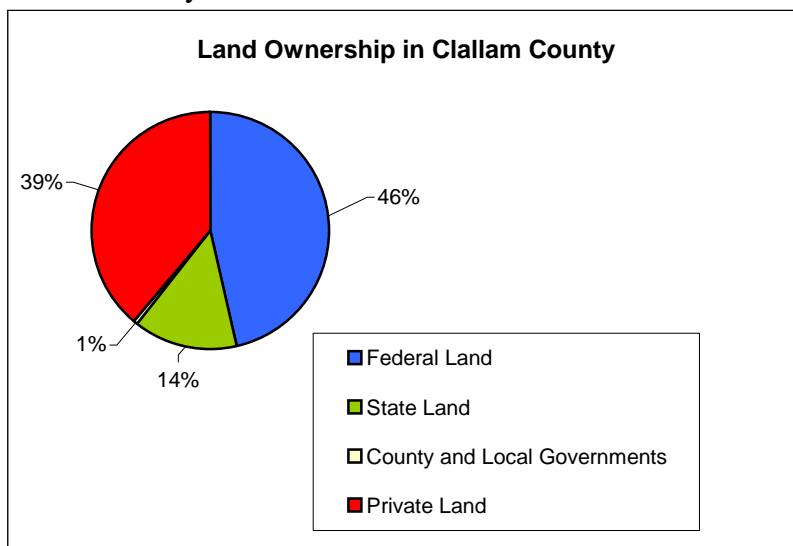
Unit	Population (2003)	% of Total County Population
Port Angeles	18,470	28.6%
Sequim	4,440	6.9%
Forks	3,125	4.8%
Unincorporated	39,265	60%



Land Ownership in Clallam County

Public land makes up approximately 61% of Clallam County.

Ownership	Acres
Federal Land	523,496
ONP	318,093
ONF	199,209
Other Federal Land	6,194
State Land	160,377
State Forest Board and DNR Lands	154,530
State Parks	2,488
Other	3,359
County and Local Governments	7,350
Total County Land	3,817
County Parks	643
Port of Port Angeles	858
School Districts	344
Other (cities and special districts)	2,331
Private Lands	437,602



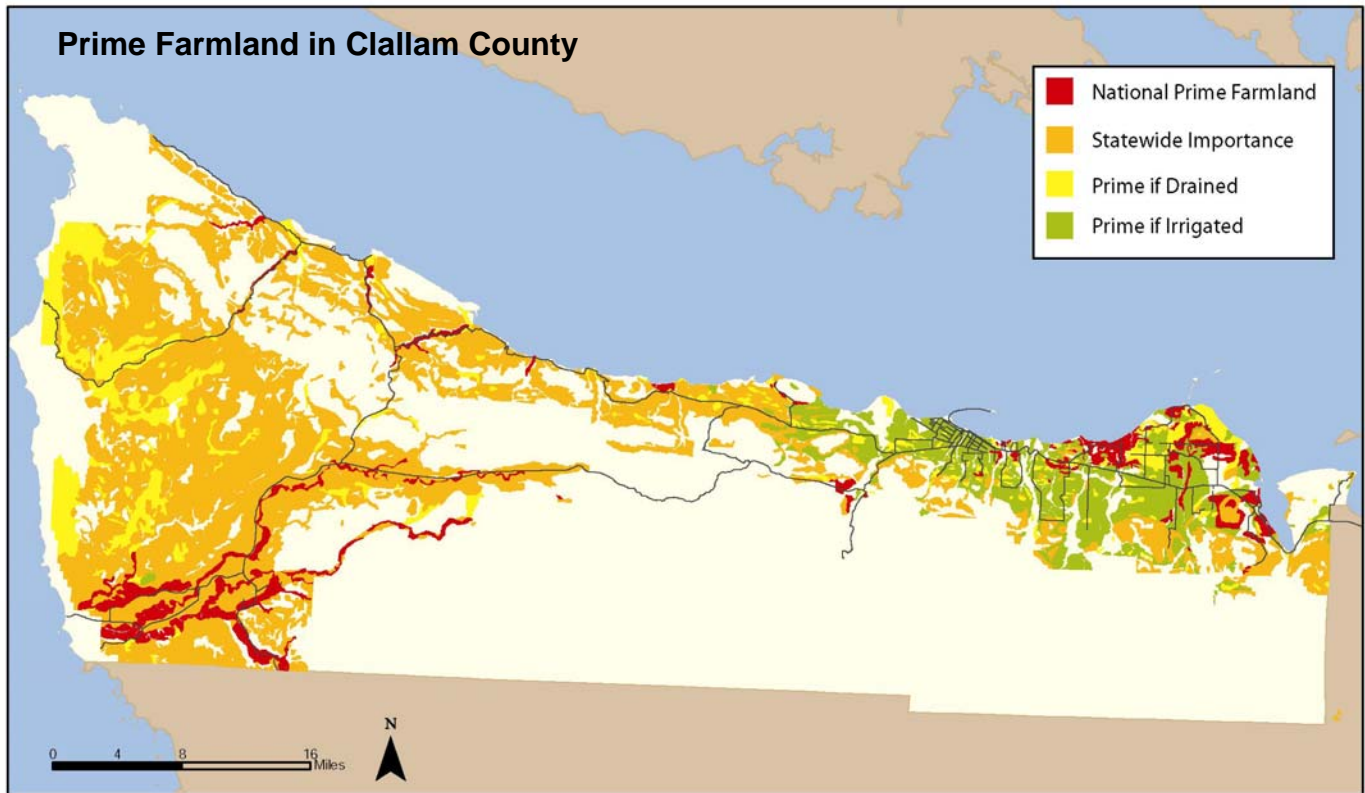
Agriculture in Clallam County

According to the USDA, the number of farms in Clallam County in 2002 was 455, down 1% from 461 in 1997. The 2002 census reports 399 of the 455 farms (88%) with sales greater than \$25,000 and only 33 farms with sales greater than \$100,000. The total acreage of farmland in 2002 was 22,372, down 12% from 1997. In 2002, 74% of farms in the county were reported to be less than 50 acres in size.

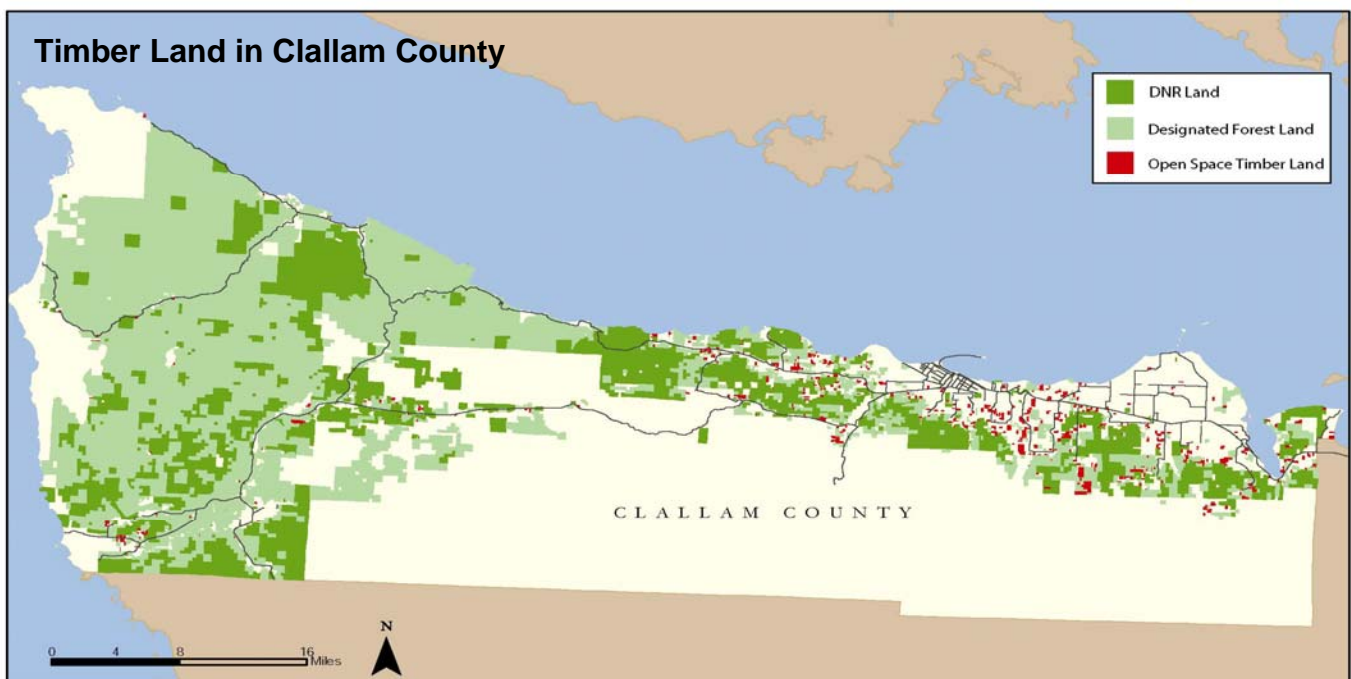
The main agricultural products in Clallam County consist of dairy, beef cattle, hay, vegetable seeds, and lavender. Most farming in the County is concentrated in the Sequim-Dungeness Valley area. However, the county has faced a significant loss of farms in recent decades, largely due to conversion of farmland to residential use. As the number of larger commercial farms decrease, the number of small non-commercial farms – primarily horse operations – is

steadily increasing. These farms account for the majority of the farm conservation plans the Conservation District has produced in the last several years.

The Soil Survey for Clallam County identifies 32,961 acres of prime farmland, and 250,455 acres of farmland of statewide importance. There are approximately 5,000 acres of irrigated farmland in the Sequim-Dungeness Valley. The vast majority of this farmland is supplied with irrigation water from the Dungeness River through an irrigation water deliver system operated by four irrigation districts and three private irrigation companies. The seven entities are collectively organized under the Sequim-Dungeness Valley Agricultural Water Users Association.



Timber Land in Clallam County



Timber harvesting is the dominant land use in the County with 285,842 acres in large commercial timber holdings. Widespread timber harvesting in the area began in the 1920's and continued intensively through the 1980's, when the rate slowed significantly due in part to federal listings of the northern spotted owl and marbled murrelet. The Washington Department of Natural Resources manages approximately 76,665 acres as state trust lands.

Land Classification by Tax Assessor Information

Many of the rural residential landowners in the County opt to put their acreage into an open space tax relief program. There are four categories in the program, General Open Space, Agricultural Open Space, Designated Timber Land, and Open Space Timber Land.

The requirements for the Open Space Agricultural tax relief program include:

- land of less than five acres devoted primarily to agricultural uses with a gross income from such uses equivalent to \$1,500 or more per year
- land of five to twenty acres devoted primarily to agricultural uses with a gross income from such uses equivalent to \$200 or more per acre per year
- land in contiguous ownership of twenty or more acres devoted to the production of livestock or agricultural commodities

The requirements for the Open Space Timber tax relief program include:

- a minimum of 5 contiguous acres, not including land with nonforest crops or improvements
- a timber management plan

The requirements for the Designated Timber Land tax relief program include:

- A minimum of 20 contiguous acres devoted to growing and harvesting timber. No more than 10% of the land may be used for incidental uses.

Jurisdiction	Open Space Timber/ Designated Forestland Acres	Non-forestland Parcels	Open Space Timber/ Designated Forestland Parcels
Unincorporated	307,153	26,613	3,969
Port Angeles		8,184	10
Sequim		2,433	1
Forks		1,310	20
Total	307,153 acres	38,541 parcels	4,000 parcels

The information from the tax assessor's office can be a useful and interesting way to analyze land uses in the County and the sections below include a breakdown of these land classifications by WRIA.

Watershed Resource Inventory Areas

The County is broken into four Water Resource Inventory Areas corresponding to major watershed basins in the region. The WRIAs were first formed in response to a law passed by the Washington State Legislature in 1998 that mandated locally based watershed planning to occur. The WRIAs form the basis for the planning units. The WRIAs in Clallam County include:

- WRIA 17- the Quilcene-Snow watershed (The portion of WRIA 17 that is within Clallam County has been combined with WRIA 18 for watershed planning purposes.)
- WRIA 18- the Elwha- Dungeness Watershed
- WRIA 19- the Lyre-Hoko watershed
- WRIA 20- the Soleduck-Hoh watershed.



The plans being developed through the watershed-planning process in Clallam County are in various stages of completion. Much of the information included in this inventory is taken from the three WRIA planning documents. Below is a table that summarizes watershed statistics for each WRIA.

WRIA	Total Acres	Percent Acres of County	Population	Percent Population of County
WRIA 17/18	383,508	34.0	58,184	87.7
WRIA 19	244,723	21.7	2,156	3.2
WRIA 20	500,561	44.3	6,019	9.1

WRIA 18 Land Use Description

Most of the recent population growth in Clallam County has occurred in WRIA 18, in the Sequim and Port Angeles areas. From 1990 to 2000, the population in the eastern portion of the county grew by over 2,500 people. The western portion of the County saw little to no growth during that time. The rapid growth in the eastern region is converting what was once open farmland into low-density residential development.

Port Angeles and Sequim are the population centers in WRIA 18. The estimated population of Port Angeles in 2003 was 18,518. The city covers an area of 10.1 square miles. The Sequim population in 2003 was estimated to be 4,440.

The tax assessor's information shows approximately 420 landowners have the designation of Open Space Agriculture on their land, for a total of 13,528 acres, or 3.5% of the WRIA.

WRIA 17 & 18 Issues and Opportunities

Threatened and Impaired Water Bodies*

Water Body	Station	Parameter
Jimmycomelately Creek (WRIA 17)	0.1, 0.6	Dissolved Oxygen
Jimmycomelately Creek (WRIA 17)	0.1	Fecal Coliform
Johnson Creek (WRIA 17)	0.0	Fecal Coliform
Bell Creek	0.1	Dissolved Oxygen
Bell Creek	0.8	Dissolved Oxygen
Bell Creek	0.1	Fecal Coliform
Cassalery Creek	0.5	Dissolved Oxygen

Cassalery Creek	0.0	Fecal Coliform
Cassalery Creek	0.6	Fecal Coliform
Meadowbrook Creek	0.8	Fecal Coliform
Meadowbrook Creek	1.9	Fecal Coliform
Hurd Creek	0.2	Fecal Coliform
Dungeness Bay		Fecal Coliform
Siebert Creek, West Fork	2.3	Dissolved Oxygen
Bagley Creek		Fecal Coliform
Peabody Creek	0.0-1.0	Fecal Coliform
Tumwater Creek	0.1-0.8	Fecal Coliform
Port Angeles Harbor	Ediz Hook Head	Dissolved Oxygen
Dry Creek	2.5	Temperature
Elwha River		Temperature
Elwha River		Total PCBs

*Proposed list submitted by Washington Department of Ecology in 2004 to Environmental Protection Agency.

Species of Concern

Species Common Name	Species Scientific Name	Type	Federal Status	State Status
Aleutian Canada Goose	<i>Branta canadensis leucopareia</i>	Bird	Concern	Threatened
Bald Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Bird	Threatened	Threatened
Bull Trout (Coastal/Puget Sound)	<i>Salvelinus confluentus</i>	Fish	Threatened	Candidate
Chinook Salmon (Puget Sound)	<i>Oncorhynchus tshawytscha</i>	Fish	Threatened	Candidate
Chum Salmon (Hood Canal Su)	<i>Oncorhynchus keta</i>	Fish	Threatened	Candidate
Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	Bird	none	Candidate
Harlequin Duck	<i>Histrionicus histrionicus</i>	Bird	none	none
Keen's Myotis	<i>Myotis keenii</i>	Mammal	none	Candidate
Makah (Queen Charlotte) Copper	<i>Lycaena mariposa charlottensis</i>	Butterfly	Concern	Candidate
Marbled Murrelet	<i>Brachyramphus marmoratus</i>	Bird	Threatened	Threatened
Merlin	<i>Falco columbarius</i>	Bird	none	Candidate
Northern Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	Bird	Concern	Candidate
Olympia Oyster	<i>Ostrea lurida</i>	Mollusk	none	Candidate
Oregon Vesper Sparrow	<i>Pooecetes gramineus affinis</i>	Bird	Concern	Candidate
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Bird	Concern	Sensitive
Pileated Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus pileatus</i>	Bird	none	Candidate
Purple Martin	<i>Progne subis</i>	Bird	none	Candidate
River Lamprey	<i>Lampetra ayresi</i>	Fish	Concern	Candidate
Spotted Owl	<i>Strix occidentalis</i>	Bird	Threatened	Endangered
Taylor's (Whulge) Checkerspot	<i>Euphydryas editha taylori</i>	Butterfly	Candidate	Candidate
Van Dyke's Salamander	<i>Plethodon vandykei</i>	Amphibian	Concern	Candidate
Vaux's Swift	<i>Chaetura vauxi</i>	Bird	none	Candidate
Western Toad	<i>Bufo boreas</i>	Amphibian	Concern	Candidate

WRIA 19 Land Use Description

Approximately 2,156 people live in WRIA 19. Clallam Bay, and Neah Bay are the densest population centers; however, most people in the WRIA live in the Joyce area. The Makah Reservation totals about 9,234 acres of land in the northwestern tip of the WRIA 19.

Commercial timber is the prominent land use in the WRIA. Seventy-six percent of the WRIA is zoned commercial forestry, of which 53 percent is privately owned, 24 percent is state trust land, and 19 percent managed by federal agencies.

Agriculture in WRIA 19 is mostly in the eastern portion of WRIA 19, in the Salt Creek Basin, an area of glacial outwash that drains a series of low hills. The tax assessors information shows there are about 61 different property owners that have agricultural open space designation on their land, for a total of 1,916 acres, or less than 1% of the WRIA. There are at least two small organic producers located in the Salt Creek area, one of which is a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) farm.

WRIA 19 will likely see a continued increase in population in the Salt Creek basin area, due to its proximity to Port Angeles.

WRIA 19 Issues and Opportunities

Threatened and Impaired Water Bodies*

Water Body	Station	Parameter
Deep Creek	0.4-2.5	Fine Sediment
Deep Creek	Mouth-2.5	Temperature
Strait of Juan de Fuca, Pysht		Fecal Coliform
Green Creek		Temperature
Clallam River	5.7	Temperature
Clallam River	1.5	Temperature
Little Hoko River	0.1-2.0	Temperature
Sekiu River		Temperature
Sekiu River, North Fork		Temperature
Sekiu River, South Fork		Temperature

*Proposed list submitted by Washington Department of Ecology in 2004 to Environmental Protection Agency.

Species of Concern

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Aleutian Canada Goose	<i>Branta canadensis leucopareia</i>	Bird	Concern	Threatened
Bald Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Bird	Threatened	Threatened
Bull Trout (Coastal/Puget Sound)	<i>Salvelinus confluentus</i>	Fish	Threatened	Candidate
Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	Bird	none	Candidate
Harlequin Duck	<i>Histrionicus histrionicus</i>	Bird	none	none
Keen's Myotis	<i>Myotis keenii</i>	Mammal	none	Candidate
Makah (Queen Charlotte) Copper	<i>Lycaena mariposa charlottensis</i>	Butterfly	Concern	Candidate
Marbled Murrelet	<i>Brachyramphus marmoratus</i>	Bird	Threatened	Threatened
Merlin	<i>Falco columbarius</i>	Bird	none	Candidate
Northern Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	Bird	Concern	Candidate
Olympia Oyster	<i>Ostrea lurida</i>	Mollusk	none	Candidate
Oregon Vesper Sparrow	<i>Pooecetes gramineus affinis</i>	Bird	Concern	Candidate
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Bird	Concern	Sensitive
Pileated Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus pileatus</i>	Bird	none	Candidate
Purple Martin	<i>Progne subis</i>	Bird	none	Candidate
River Lamprey	<i>Lampetra ayresi</i>	Fish	Concern	Candidate
Spotted Owl	<i>Strix occidentalis</i>	Bird	Threatened	Endangered
Taylor's (Whulge) Checkerspot	<i>Euphydryas editha taylori</i>	Butterfly	Candidate	Candidate
Van Dyke's Salamander	<i>Plethodon vandykei</i>	Amphibian	Concern	Candidate
Vaux's Swift	<i>Chaetura vauxi</i>	Bird	none	Candidate
Western Toad	<i>Bufo boreas</i>	Amphibian	Concern	Candidate

WRIA 20 Land Use Description

Forks is the only incorporated city within WRIA 20. The city covers a land area of 3.1 square miles and has a population of 3,120.

WRIA 20 includes four Indian reservations, including the Quileute, Hoh, Ozette and Makah. The Ozette Reservation is under treaty jurisdiction of the Makah Tribe and is currently managed as wilderness.

Olympic National Park makes up 127,299 acres, or 25.4% of WRIA 20.

Commercial timber harvesting is the dominant land use in the area. There are 158,452 acres in large commercial timber holdings within WRIA 20. This is 31.6% of the land area in the WRIA.

Much of the initial agricultural settlement of the area was located around the Forks prairie, where lack of trees and fertile soil made farming a viable option. Today, agriculture in WRIA 20 is sparse. One hundred nineteen parcels totaling 1,776 acres are classified as Open Space Agriculture according to the Tax Assessor's records.

Like many of the areas on the Olympic Peninsula, WRIA 20 has seen a continued growth in recreational use of public lands. These lands are being promoted as an increasing source of economic development for the rural communities in the area. Activities in the area include hiking and camping, sport fishing, hunting, and mountain biking. As the recreational use continues to increase, so too will the impacts these activities have on the land.

WRIA 20 Issues and Opportunities

Threatened and Impaired Water Bodies*

Water Body	Station	Parameter
Soleduck River	Near Resort	High pH
Bear Creek	5.1	Dissolved Oxygen
Beaver Creek	Mouth	Temperature
Lake Creek	0.7-2.75	Dissolved Oxygen
Lake Creek	1.6-2.0	Temperature
Siwash Creek	Mouth	Dissolved Oxygen
Coal Creek		Low pH
Big River		Low pH
Crooked Creek, North Fork		Temperature
Crooked Creek		Low pH
Dickey River, Middle Fork		Temperature
Dickey River, West Fork		Temperature
Dickey River, East Fork		Temperature
Coal Creek		Temperature
Dickey River	Near Mouth	Fecal Coliform
Elk Creek	1.8	Temperature
Soleduck River	6.5-44.9	Temperature
Sitkum River		Temperature
Calawah River, South Fork	5.96	Temperature
Bogachiel River	8.7-15.7, 20	Temperature
Maxfield Creek		Temperature
South Creek	Near Mouth	Dissolved Oxygen

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Open Space AGRICULTURE Tax in Clallam County by WRIA

Clallam WRIs	Approximate number of landowners with Open Space Agriculture per WRIA	Acres of Open Space Agriculture per WRIA	Average OS Agriculture size per WRIA
WRIA 17/18	420	13,528	31
WRIA 19	61	1,916	12
WRIA 20	35	1,776	15

Open Space TIMBER LAND in Clallam County by WRIA (Small Forest Landowners)

Clallam WRIs	Approximate number of landowners with Open Space Timber per WRIA	Acres of Open Space Timber per WRIA	Average size of OS Timber holding per WRIA
WRIA 17/18	355	5,747	16
WRIA 19	120	1,332	13
WRIA 20	74	1,157	16

Designated TIMBER LAND in Clallam County by WRIA

Clallam WRIs	Approximate number of landowners with Designated Timber Land per WRIA	Acres of Designated Timber Land per WRIA	Average size per WRIA
WRIA 17/18	265	26,819	101
WRIA 19	148	141,174	953
WRIA 20	134	219,245	1636